



FIRST THINGS FIRST

Regional Partnership Councils January 2009 Report

Regional Partnership Council Appointments: Since the last update in October 2008, we have received seven resignations from members from the Yuma, San Carlos Apache, Cocopah Tribe, and Gila Regional Councils. A total of 305 Regional Council seats are filled. Ten individuals are being recommended to the Board for appointment.

Regional Funding Plans: The Yuma Regional Partnership Council will be presenting their funding plan to the Board for approval. All of the strategies proposed are recommended for Board approval with the exception of the communications, evaluation, and needs and assets which are recommended to be held. The Central Pima Regional Council will be bringing forward the two strategies that were held that focus on Quality First and Accreditation and both are recommended for approval. The Navajo Nation Regional Partnership Council has submitted a letter requesting an extension until the February Board meeting. Supporting documents for each of these Regional Councils is attached with this report.

Press releases were sent out in December and early January across the state and several Regional Councils received very positive media attention on their funding plans. We will continue to track the media hits on the Regional Councils. In addition, community meetings are happening around the state. The Finance and Regional Divisions are working together to get out in the community about the grant application process. The Finance Division developed a “train the trainer” model of information that can be presented by any member of the First Things First team; but is initially being delivered by Finance and Regional staff teams. The curriculum covers the following components:

- The Request for Grant Application (RFGA) as the most common First Things First funding mechanism
- What is the RFGA and how it works
- The First Things First funding process
- The First Things First Scope of Work logic model overview
- How an applicant could use the logic model in responding to RFGAs
- Work through example logic model activities
- Meet regional First Things First staff and hear more about funding plans in each regional area.

Additionally, participant satisfaction surveys are being collected and to date the response was positive about the usefulness of the information discussed during these informational meetings. Attendance thus far is just over 400. A schedule of the meetings is included at the end of the report.

Staff has continued its reviews of the regional funding plans and all of the strategies with a focus on opportunities for cross regional coordination and alignment. A focused effort around coordination is to ensure efficiency with FTF funds and that we are building on the early childhood development and health infrastructure that already exists locally and statewide. Strategy workgroups have been developed around the topic areas below and will address uniformity around standards of practice, key measures and performance measures, costs, the type of funding agreements, opportunities for coordination across other strategies, and capacity issues. The strategy workgroups are made up of Finance and Regional division staff, Regional Council members, state agency partners, and external partners. Based on the work that needs to occur in these strategy workgroups it was also determined that it would be most effective, and to ensure a quality RFGA process, if the strategies rolled out over a series of three phases with RFGAs for phase I strategies released in January/February, for phase II strategies released in March/April and for phase III strategies released in May.

Strategy Workgroups, Facilitators and Phases

1. Access and affordability of early care and education facilitated by Jennifer Johnson and Jill Stevens with a Phase II roll out.
2. Professional development facilitated by Marla Chamberlain and Alicia Smith (early care and education) with a Phase III roll out
3. Screening and preventative health care facilitated by Kim VanPelt and Judy Walruff with a Phase III roll out
4. Family Support and Health Insurance outreach facilitated by Wendy Sabatini and K Vilay with a Phase I roll out
5. Early Literacy facilitated by AdiShakti Khalsa and Katie Stevens with a Phase I roll out
6. Professional development, scholarships, and incentives for health professionals facilitated by Diane Umstead and Allison Landy with a Phase I roll out.

All regionally funded statewide initiatives will begin July 1 except for the wage enhancement which will roll out with Phase II strategies. As the strategy workgroups are meeting, policy issues will be brought forward to the Program Committee of the Board. To date meetings with FTF staff have been held with the family support and health insurance, early literacy and professional development, scholarships, and incentives for health professionals workgroups in order to outline the issues and discussion points.

Work is also underway on the development of a comprehensive communications campaign between the state and Regional Councils. An external workgroup made up of Regional Council members and external partners will be convened on January 30, 2009 and the work of the group will be shared with the Regional Council Chairs and Vice Chairs at their next meeting scheduled for February 5, 2009 meeting.

Regional Partnership Councils leadership: The next Regional Council Chairs and Vice Chairs meeting is scheduled for February 5, 2009 from 10-3pm. The location has not been finalized. We will be contacting the Chairs and Vice Chairs from the Tribal Regional Partnership Councils to determine if they would like to meet prior to the meeting. This was a request from our Chairs and Vice Chairs of the Tribal Regional Councils at the first leadership forum. Current topics to be discussed at the meeting include communications, advocacy and the state budget, and discretionary funding.

Regional Management Areas and Vacant Positions: The Regional Management areas are the areas overseen by the Regional Managers and make up between 5-7 Regional Partnership Councils. These

areas were reviewed in December and it was determined that changes should be made to offer more of a geographic balance across the areas for the Regional Managers. Two changes were made. The Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community Regional Council has been moved to the Maricopa region managed by Wendy Sabatini and the Gila River Indian Community has moved to the Phoenix/Yavapai regional area managed by Kim VanPelt. The Phoenix/Yavapai regional area will now be the Greater Phoenix/Yavapai regional area. The Central East Regional Area will now include the Graham/Greenlee, Pinal, San Carlos, and Gila Regional Councils. The Regional Manager position for the Central East area is vacant as well as the Regional Coordinator position for the Graham/Greenlee Regional Council. Staff is working to fill both of these positions. The Regional Training Coordinator position has been posted and a review of resumes is taking place.

**Regional RFGA Roadshow Schedule
December – January 2008**

DECEMBER 8 KINGMAN. 12:00 Kingman Police Department, 2730 E. Andy Devine Kingman 86401

DECEMBER 9 COCHISE 1:00 Mona Bishop Room - Sierra Vista Public Library 2600 E. Tacoma Street Sierra Vista, Arizona 85635

DECEMBER 9 HUALAPAI 12:00 Hualapai Tribe Multipurpose Room, 460 Hualapai Way, Peach Springs, Arizona 86434

DECEMBER 10 PARKER 10:00 Lily of the Valley Church 812 Eagle Parker, Arizona 85344

DECEMBER 11 PIMA 10:00 A.M. Pima Community College - Desert Vista Campus

DECEMBER 12 FLAGSTAFF, East Flagstaff Public Library 3000 N. 4th st., 9:45-11:45am (Trudy Rogers, AdiShakti Khalsa, Cristi Mallery, Ellen Majure, Kate Dobler-Allen)

DECEMBER 12 HOLBROOK, 2:30 p.m., Northland Pioneer College, Tiponi Room, Early Learning Center, 2251 North Navajo Blvd., 86025 (Kate Dobler-Allen, AdiShakti Khalsa, Todd Mason, Sheila Hoppe, Sandy Carpenter)

DECEMBER 15 YUMA/COCOPAH 11:00 a.m. Vista South School 221 E. 26th Place Yuma, Arizona 85364

DECEMBER 17, WHITERIVER, White Mountain Apache Tribe RPC, Whiteriver Unified School District Training Room, 963 S. Chief Ave., Whiteriver, AZ 85941 (Rochelle Lacapa)

JANUARY 6, 2009, TAYLOR, 10:30am – 12:30pm Navajo/Apache RPC, Taylor Fire Department, 411 W. Papermill Road, Taylor, Az 85939 (Kate Dobler-Allen)

JANUARY 12, 2009, ST. JOHNS, 10:30am – 12:30pm Navajo/Apache RPC, Apache County Board of Supervisor's Room, Apache County Annex Building 75 W. Cleveland, St Johns, Az 85936 (Kate Dobler-Allen)

JANUARY 12, 2009, SPRINGERVILLE, 2:30pm – 4:30pm Navajo/Apache RPC, White Mountain Regional Medical Center, 118 S. Mountain, Springerville, Az 85938 (Kate Dobler-Allen)

January 12, 2009 (10am – 12pm) Bullhead City – Bullhead City Elementary School District Board Room, 1004 Hancock Rd. Bullhead City, AZ 86442 (Merritt Beckett)

January 12, 2009 (3pm – 5pm) Mohave Valley – Aha Macav High School, 1589 Plantation Road, Mohave Valley, AZ 86440 (Merritt Beckett)

January 12, 2009 (4-7 pm) Phoenix Regions – Tanner Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church, 20 S. Eight Street, Phoenix, AZ 85034

January 13, 2009 (10am – 12pm) Quartzsite – Quartzsite Library, 465 N. Plymouth Ave. Quartzsite, AZ 85346 (Merritt Beckett)

JANUARY 13, 2009 CENTRAL EAST REGION- Apache Gold Casino, 10 a.m. -12:00 p.m.

January 14, 2009 (12pm – 2pm) Lake Havasu City – Lake Havasu Library Room A , 1770 N. McCulloch Blvd. Lake Havasu City, AZ 86403 (Merritt Beckett)

JANUARY 14, 2008 SOUTHEAST, 2:30-4:30 p.m., United Way and City of Tucson Community Resource Center, 320 Commerce Park Loop, Tucson, AZ -Sentinel Building (Jessica Brisson)

JANUARY 14 CENTRAL MARICOPA & NORTHEAST/SOUTHEAST MARICOPA, 1:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M., Desert Banner Hospital, Rosati Education Center, Saguaro Room, 1400 S. Dobson, Mesa, AZ 85202 (Parking available in the 1432 garage).

January 15, 2009 (12pm – 2pm) Beaver Dam/Littlefield – Beaver Dam High School Library, 3475 E. Rio Virgin Road, Beaver Dam, AZ 86432 (Merritt Beckett)

JANUARY 15 SOUTHWEST/NORTHWEST MARICOPA, 10:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M., City of Avondale City Council Chambers, 11465 W. Civic Center, Avondale, AZ 85323

January 16, 2009 (12pm – 2pm) Colorado City – El Capitan Public School, 255 N. Cottonwood St., Colorado City, AZ 86021 (Merritt Beckett)

JANUARY 16, 2009 1-3 P.M. APACHE JUNCTION – 1177 NORTH IDAHO ROAD, APACHE JUNCTION, AZ 85291, AIMEE AND CARRIE

JANUARY 20, 2009 10:30AM – 12:30PM – LAKESIDE FIRE STATION, 2922 W. WHITE MOUNTAIN BLVD. LAKESIDE, AZ 85929. KATE DOBLER-ALLEN

January 21, 2009 (11am to 1pm) Central East Region Gila Community College, 201 N. Mud Springs Road, Room 402, Payson, AZ 85541 (Eva, Mary and Beverly)

January 21, 2009 (9 am -12noon) Phoenix Regions Church of the Nations, 11640 N. 19th Avenue, 85029

January 21, 2009 (10am – 12pm) Oracle School District Office, 725 N. Carpenter Dr., Oracle, AZ (contact Aimee Kempton-Sarosi or Carrie Loos at 520-836-5838)

JANUARY 22, 2009 YAVAPAI - PRESCOTT PUBLIC LIBRARY - FOUNDERS SUITE A&B
215 E. GOODWIN STREET PRESCOTT, AZ 86303 1:00-3:00 PM (KIM AND MARCIA)

JANUARY 23, 2009 1-3 P.M. CASA GRANDE – CASA GRANDE LIBRARY – 449 N. DRY LAKE STREET, CASA GRANDE, AZ 85222 - AIMEE AND CARRIE

January 26, 2009 (10am – 12pm) Wenden/Salome – Salome Elementary School, 38128 Saguaro & Main, Salome, AZ 85348 (Merritt Beckett)

January 26, 2009 (3pm – 5pm) Parker – Parker Public Library/La Paz County Library 1001 S. Navajo Avenue, Parker, AZ 85344(Merritt Beckett)

January 26, 2009 (10:30am – 12:30pm) Eagar –Northland Pioneer College 578 N. Main Street Eagar, Az 85925 (Kate Dobler-Allen)

January 27, 2009 (12pm – 2pm) Kingman – Kingman Police Station, 2370 E. Andy Devine Ave., Kingman, AZ 86404 (Merritt Beckett)

JANUARY 28, 2009 YAVAPAI – YAVAPAI COLLEGE – VERDE VALLEY CAMPUS ROOM D-111 601 BLACK HILLS DRIVE, CLARKDALE, AZ 86324 1:00-3:00 PM (KIM AND MARCIA)

JANUARY 29, 2009 (2PM-4PM) SACATON - HU HU KAM MEMORIAL HOSPITAL- CONFERENCE ROOM A & B, 483 W Seed Farm Rd, Sacaton Arizona 85247 (Cathy Thornton)